

## Holy Scripture Lessons for the Day

**Epistle Lesson:** St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

**Gospel Reading: St. Matthew 6:14-21**

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. "And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

**Metropolis Philoptochos Sponsors Festival of Flowers Event.** The event is a spring luncheon to be held at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Ann Arbor, MI. It takes place on Saturday, April 10, 2010 (Bright Saturday) at 11 AM. The cost for the luncheon is per person is \$35.00 with proceeds being used for Metropolis-wide philanthropy. Each Philoptochos chapter is invited to design a themed floral centerpiece for their table at the festival (hence the name, Festival of Flowers). As part of the luncheon there will be a musical performance by Mariangela Chatzistamatiou (Soprano) accompanied by Andreas Xenopoulos (Piano) for your enjoyment. These two young people are from Greece and are currently in the United States as part of an exchange programme while they study here. Persons who are interested in attending the luncheon are asked to please RSVP by phoning the parish office at 668-6583 no later than Sunday, March 14th in order to ensure the chapter reservations are received in Ann Arbor by March 25th.

In conjunction with the Festival of Flowers there is also a raffle being conducted that will directly benefit the operation of the ministries and office expenses of our Metropolitan. A sampling of the 16 wonderful prizes includes: a gold cross necklace, many jewelry items, designer handbags, cases, and gift cards; \$300 to Saks and \$100 American Express, as well as other exciting prizes. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. Persons interested in purchasing a raffle ticket to support our Metropolis are encouraged to contact the parish office for more information. Raffle tickets will be available on Sundays.

*Devote yourself to stillness and know that I am God - Psalm 45:10 (LXX)*

## Archangel Gabriel Greek Orthodox Church

*Traditional Worship for Modern Life*

Volume IV Number 7- Sunday, 14 February 2010

### PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, 14 February  
Orthros Eothinon 3  
Apolitykion Tone 3

**Forgiveness Sunday.**  
**The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise**  
Fast Day—Dairy, Fish, Wine and Oil Permitted  
9 AM Orthros and Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos  
11:15 AM Vespers of Forgiveness  
Noon Fellowship Hour

Monday, 15 February

**St. Onesimos the Apostle of the Seventy**  
Fast Day  
5:30 PM Compline and Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Tuesday, 16 February

**St. Pamphilios the Martyr and His Companions**  
Fast Day  
5:30 PM Monthly Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, 17 February

**St. Theodore of Tyro, the Great Martyr**  
Fast Day—Wine and Oil Permitted  
6:30 PM Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified

Thursday, 18 February

**St. Leo the Great, Pope of Rome**  
Fast Day  
6 PM Special Choir Rehearsal

Friday, 19 February

**St. Philemon and Archippos, Apostles of the Seventy**  
Fast Day  
4:30 PM Compline and Akathist Hymn Stasis 1

Saturday, 20 February

**St. Leo, Bishop of Catania**  
Fast Day—Wine and Oil Permitted  
4:30 PM 9th Hour and Vespers  
5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, 22 February  
Orthros Eothinon 4  
Apolitykion Tone 4

**First Sunday of Great Lent. The Triumph of Orthodoxy.**  
Fast Day—Wine and Oil Permitted  
9 AM Orthros and Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos  
11:15 AM Church School  
11:30 Fellowship Hour



METROPOLIS  
OF DETROIT

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**Vespers of Forgiveness Today.** Our Lenten observance will begin with the celebration of the Vespers of Forgiveness today immediately following the dismissal of the Holy Liturgy. This important service is the signal that the Lenten struggle has begun. The climax of the service is the Rite of Mutual Forgiveness which takes place at the end of vespers. In this rite, the priest asks forgiveness of each person individually and then each person attending the service asks forgiveness of the other until everyone has forgiven each person everything. It is only then that we can begin our Lenten journey—only after we have forgiven. Please make it a point to start your Lenten observance by attending this moving and most beautiful service.

**Bouteneff Lecture a Home Run!** Last weekend our parish hosted Dr. Peter Bouteneff who gave a short presentation to us on Saturday evening following vespers and a formal lecture on Sunday at Northwestern Michigan College's Dennon Museum. The lecture was in conjunction with the parish study of the book concerning the life of Fr. Arseny which was translated by Dr. Bouteneff's mother, Vera. As it was Sunday's lecture was a smashing success. With close to 110 people in attendance, the museum's director was stunned at the number of people that had come. Moreover, the majority of those people WERE NOT from our parish but were members of the greater community who had an interest in what Dr. Bouteneff had to say. The lecture was a masterful presentation of the function of suffering and adversity in creating an atmosphere in which grace not only manifests itself but actually blossoms. While not necessarily popular with the "prosperity Gospel" club, Dr. Bouteneff's observations helped to demonstrate the effects of suffering in manifesting authentic humanity by calling on a number of sources not all of them Christian or religious. Through his work he helped to illustrate the universality of the concept without getting caught up in religious explanations. A lecture specifically prepared to address persons not necessarily of faith, Dr. Bouteneff was successful in engaging his audience and challenging them to reflect upon the nature and function of suffering.

The lecture was recorded by our parish and will be made available to anyone who would like. Those interested in an audio copy of the lecture are encouraged to speak with Karen Kain for more information. Thanks are extended to Pam and Leon Lysaght who provided underwriting for the Fr. Arseny books as well as for Dr. Bouteneff's visit with us.

**Partners with Traverse Bay Sunrise Rotary Club.** Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS) is pleased and grateful to partner with the Traverse Bay Sunrise Rotary Club, as the club launches its first annual 'Shoes & Snacks for Backpacks' fundraising event, scheduled to take place at Timber Ridge Resort on *Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.* The \$15 event registration fee will sponsor one fully supplied backpack for the 2010 'Backpacks for Kids' program. Participants will enjoy a snowshoe trek on groomed trails with complimentary hot beverages and snacks. Limited on-site rentals are available at \$5.00 per pair thanks to event partner, GT Cycle (231) 941-4868. Advance registration is encouraged. This is a family-friendly event with a maximum registration fee of \$25.00. Additional donations are welcomed. Please contact Jessica Luckey at (231) 932-6238 or visit: [www.tcsunriserotary.org](http://www.tcsunriserotary.org) for more information.

**Special Choir Rehearsal Thursday.** The third in a series of special rehearsals to prepare for the Great Lent will be held this Thursday at between 6 and 8 PM. The group will continue to work on the special music

for the Liturgy of St. Basil as well as the Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified. Everyone is welcome to join us for these rehearsals. For more information please contact Presvytera Joleen-Elisabet.

**Fellowship Hour List Posted:** The new fellowship hour list starting March 7th is now posted in our community center. Please make sure to check the list, so that you are aware of when your group will be serving. Groups are not in numerical order, so it is important that you check this roster.

**Prospora Baking Class Meets 6 March.** The final class for the "Church cooking series" will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010 in two sessions. Session 1 runs from 9 AM-11:30 AM and Session 2 runs from 1 PM-3:30 PM. Please note that these times are approximate. There are slots for five people in each session, allowing for individualized instruction and also making sure that there is an adequate amount of "baking" time. Rebekah will be assisted by our parish council secretary and long-time prospora baker Judy Weston in teaching this class. Please RSVP to Rebekah by Sunday, February 28th to ensure a placement, and for us to have the correct amount of ingredients on hand for participants.

**Missions Focus For the Lenten Season.** This is the time for the traditional mission appeal in support of those engaged in missionary work. Coin boxes have been provided to our parish free of charge by the Orthodox Christian Mission Center in order to heighten our awareness of those engaged in this important work. Throughout Lent, we are encouraged to remember the missionaries in our prayers as well as with our financial support. In conjunction with this project, our church school is sponsoring Missionary Bean Soup kits which are available to anyone interested in participating free of charge. While there is no money required for the kits, there is a cost. Persons who take a kit are asked to pray every day of Lent for those working in the missions. It will cost you your time. An instruction sheet with the meanings behind the different kinds of beans used for ingredients in the soup as well as a prayer for those serving in the missions is included in the kit. Both are there to help us remember the work of over-seas missionaries in ministering to the needs of people in other countries as well as witnessing to God's immense love for us all. Join us in supporting the work of the brave and dedicated men and women who work in the missions.

**Parish Council to Meet on Tuesday Evening.** The parish council meeting, which was rescheduled from this past Tuesday, will take place on this Tuesday at 5:30 PM. The original meeting was rescheduled due to the unavailability of completed financial statements as well as some member absences due to illness. This week's meeting will deal with normal business as well as several program proposals, a review of the strategic planning outcomes and scheduling for the Holy Week and Pascha services. As always parishioners are invited to attend the meeting and there will be opportunity for parishioners to present ideas and make comments to the council during the public comment section of the meeting which normally occurs at the end of the evening's business. Council members will receive their reports electronically via e-Mail and are asked to review them prior to the meeting.

*Holy Archangel Gabriel pray unto God for us; who are the speedy helper and intercessor for our souls*